

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-10 (Canceled).

11. (New) A packet communication apparatus comprising:  
a transmitter that transmits a plurality of transmission units, constituting a packet signal, in order;  
a determiner that makes a determination as to whether or not a quality of a transmitting packet signal has deteriorated below a predetermined quality level, at a communication end, based on transmit power control information received from said communication end; and  
a controller that:  
in response to a determination by the determiner that the quality of the transmitting packet signal is deteriorated below the predetermined quality level, halts transmit power control on those among the transmission units constituting the transmitting packet signal that are transmitted after the determination; and  
based on the transmit power control information on the transmission units constituting the transmitting packet signal, said information received after the determination,

performs transmit power control on a beginning transmission unit of a next transmitted packet signal.

12. (New) The packet communication apparatus according to claim 11, further comprising:

a storage that stores the transmit power control information received after the determination, wherein:

said controller reflects said transmit power control information stored in said storage on the beginning transmission unit of the next transmitted packet signal collectively.

13. (New) The packet communication apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said controller comprises:

a control channel power controller that, in response to a determination that the quality of the transmitting packet signal is deteriorated, performs transmit power control on only a control channel portion of those among the plurality of transmission units that are transmitted after the determination, based on the transmit power control information received after the determination; and

a data channel power controller that:

halts the transmit power control on a data channel

portion of those among the plurality of transmission units that are transmitted after the determination; and

based on a transmit power of the control channel portion of a last transmission unit of the transmitting packet signal, sets the transmit power of the data channel portion of the beginning transmission unit of the next transmitted packet signal.

14. (New) The packet communication apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said determiner determines that the quality of the transmitting packet signal at the communication end has deteriorated below the predetermined quality level when the transmit power control information, to the effect of increasing a transmit power, is successively received a predetermined number of times.

15. (New) A transmit power control method comprising:  
transmitting a plurality of transmission units, constituting a packet signal, in order;

making a determination as to whether or not a quality of a transmitting packet signal has deteriorated below a predetermined quality level, at a communication end, based on transmit power control information received from said communication end;

in response to a determination that the quality of the transmitting packet signal is deteriorated below the predetermined quality level, halting transmit power control on those among the transmission units constituting the transmitting packet signal that are transmitted after the determination; and

based on the transmit power control information on the transmission units constituting the transmitting packet signal, said information received after the determination, performing transmit power control on a beginning transmission unit of a next transmitted packet signal.